

## Message Text

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51  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /062 W  
----- 074439

R 221040Z OCT 74  
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4924  
INFO CINCLANT  
COMICEDEFOR  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE REYKJAVIK 1436

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT IC  
SUBJECT: TWO OPPOSITION PARTY LEADERS STEP DOWN

1. WITHIN PAST WEEK CHAIRMEN OF BOTH MAJOR  
OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE REVEALED THAT  
THEY WILL NOT BE CANDIDATES TO SUCCEED THEMSELVES  
AT RESPECTIVE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS THIS FALL.

2. GYLFI GISLASON, WHOSE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
IS ONLY PARTY TO LOSE SEATS IN EACH OF THE LAST TWO  
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS, STRESSED NEED TO DIVERSIFY  
SDP LEADERSHIP IN ANNOUNCING DECISION. HE WILL  
REMAIN AS HEAD OF SDP'S PARLIAMENTARY GROUP.  
ALTHOUGH HE ACTED VOLUNTARILY, GISLASON WAS IN  
TROUBLE WITHIN PARTY BECAUSE OF SDP'S POOR SHOWING  
AT POLLS AND NOT SURE OF REELECTION. VICE CHAIRMAN  
BENEDIKT GRONDAL APPEARS NOW TO BE MOST LIKELY  
SUCCESSOR.

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3. RAGNAR ARNALDS, 36-YEAR OLD CHAIRMAN OF  
PEOPLES ALLIANCE, HAS OFFERED NO PUBLIC REASON  
FOR HIS RESIGNATION. HOWEVER, HE OWED POSITION,  
IN WHICH HE HAS BEEN LITTLE MORE THAN FIGUREHEAD,  
TO COMPROMISE BETWEEN REAL POWERS WITHIN PA,  
MAGNUS KJARTANSSON AND LUDVIK JOSEPPSSON, AND IS  
PROBABLY LEAVING AT BEHEST OF ONE OR BOTH OF THEM.  
WHILE EITHER KJARTANSSON OR JOSEPPSSON MAY, THEREFORE,  
NOW MAKE BID FOR LEADERSHIP, SPECULATION HAS THUS  
FAR CENTERED ON KJARTAN OLAFSSON, EDITOR OF PA'S  
DAILY THJODVILJINN, AND SVAVA JAKOBSDOTTIR, US-  
EDUCATED MP WHO IS VOCAL CRITIC OF U.S. AND  
VEHEMENTLY OPPOSED TO RETENTION OF  
NATO BASE IN ICELAND.

IRVING

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY FACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741027/aaaaawmm.tel  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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**To:** STATE  
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